

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of painting a surface in a predetermined color, comprising the steps of providing a paint including a film-forming binder component for forming a film of the paint on the surface, a color-producing component for providing the predetermined color on the surface, and a fire-retardant component adapted to protect the surface from consequences of fire which does not exceed 15% of weight of the paint, and painting the surface with said paint so as to impart the predetermined color to the surface and also to protect the surface from fire.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said providing includes using the fire-retardant component which includes at least one phosphate selected from the group consisting of melamine polyphosphate, ammonium polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, and melamine phosphate.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said providing includes using the fire-retardant component which includes melamine or its derivative selected from the group consisting of melamine cyanurate, melamine borate, melamine polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate and melamine phosphate.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said providing includes using said fire retardant component which includes a charring agent, a blowing agent and an additional element which includes phosphate or its derivatives or melamine or its derivatives.

Claim 5 cancelled.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said providing includes using said fire-retardant component which includes melamine, pentaerythritol and melamine polyphosphate.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 6, wherein said providing includes using said fire retardant component which include 5.25 % of melamine, 5.25 weight % of pentaerythritol; and 4.50 weight % of melamine polyphosphate of total weight of the paint.

8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said providing includes using said paint in which additional components including a filler and an additive are added.

9. (currently amended) A paint for painting a surface in a predetermined color, comprising a film-forming binder component for forming a film of the paint on the surface; a color-producing component for providing the predetermined color on the surface; and a fire-retardant component adapted to protect the surface from consequences of fire which does not exceed 15% of weight of the paint, such that when a surface is painted with the paint, the predetermined color is imparted to the surface and the surface is protected from fire.

10. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 9, wherein said fire-retardant component includes at least one phosphate selected from the group consisting of melamine polyphosphate, ammonium polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, and melamine phosphate.

11. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 9, wherein said fire-retardant component includes melamine or its derivative selected from the group consisting of melamine cyanurate, melamine borate, melamine polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate and melamine phosphate.

12. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 9, wherein said fire retardant component includes a charring agent, a blowing agent and an additional element which includes said phosphate or its derivatives or said melamine or its derivatives.

Claim 13 cancelled.

14. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 9, wherein said fire retardant component includes melamine, pentaerythritol, and melamine polyphosphate.

15. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 14, wherein said fire retardant component include 5.25 weight % of melamine, 5.25 weight % of pentaerythritol, and 4.50 weight % of melamine polyphosphate of total weight of the paint.

16. (Original) A paint as defined in claim 9; and further comprising a filler and an additive.

Claims 17-23 cancelled.

24. (currently amended) A method of producing a paint for painting a surface in a predetermined color, comprising the steps of mixing a film-forming binder component for forming a film of the paint on the surface, and a color-producing component for providing the predetermined color on the surface; and adding a fire-retardant component adapted to protect the surface from consequences of fire which does not exceed 15% of weight of the paint, so that when a surface is painted with the thusly produced paint, the predetermined color is imparted to the surface and the surface is protected from fire.

25. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24, wherein said adding includes using the fire-retardant component which includes at least one phosphate selected from the group consisting of melamine polyphosphate, ammonium polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, and melamine phosphate.

26. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24, wherein said adding includes using the fire-retardant component which includes melamine or its derivatives selected from the group consisting of melamine cyanurate, melamine borate, melamine polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, melamine pyrophosphate and melamine phosphate.

27. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24, wherein said adding includes using said fire retardant component which includes a charring agent, a blowing agent and an additional element which includes said phosphate or its derivatives or said melamine or its derivatives.

Claim 28 cancelled.

29. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24, wherein adding includes using said fire retardant component which includes melamine, pentaerythritol, and melamine polyphosphate.

30. (Original) A method as defined in claim 29, wherein adding includes using said fire retardant component which include 5.25 weight % of melamine, 5.25 weight % of pentaerythritol, and 4.50 weight % of melamine polyphosphate of total weight of the paint.

31. (Original) A method as defined in claim 24; and further comprising introducing into the paint a filler and an additive.